

HOUSE RESOLUTION 209

By Litz

A RESOLUTION to recognize Wanda Neal on the occasion of her retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those public servants who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their illustrious careers; and

WHEREAS, Wanda Neal is one such estimable person who has served with distinction for over thirty years as Election Registrar/Administrator of Elections for the Hamblen County Election Commission; and

WHEREAS, soon, Ms. Neal will be taking a much deserved retirement after decades of service to the people of her County and the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, in April 1979, Wanda Neal was appointed Registrar-at-Large for the Hamblen County Election Commission, and at the time of her appointment, the position was only a part-time one; the office from which she worked was only open one day per week in off election years; and

WHEREAS, in 1982, the Hamblen County Election Commission voted to elevate her position to full-time status and to afford Ms. Neal the same benefits all county employees enjoyed; and

WHEREAS, more change came to her office in 1986, when the Tennessee General Assembly voted to professionalize all election registrars; as a result, Ms. Neal was required to sit for an official examination to test her knowledge of election laws and procedures, but she did receive in return a guarantee of a minimum salary and a new title: Administrator of Elections; and

WHEREAS, Wanda Neal immediately proved that she deserved that new salary and her new title by performing most admirably on the Administrator's test; her remarkable score placed her in the top ten percent of examinees; and

WHEREAS, throughout her three decades of service to the people of Hamblen County, Wanda Neal has run her office in a strictly non-partisan fashion, placing both voters and candidates at ease; she has served the local electorate with honor, never wavering in her belief that elections must be conducted with the highest level of integrity and honesty; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the service she has faithfully rendered to the voters of Hamblen County, she has been a dedicated member of St. Paul Presbyterian Church for over forty years; she serves as an Elder and Treasurer of the St. Paul Cemetery Trust Corporation; and

WHEREAS, although Ms. Neal will soon relinquish her position, she will hardly retire from life; surrounded by family, friends, and a community for which she is deeply grateful, Wanda Neal will no doubt remain as active and engaged a citizen as ever; and

WHEREAS, Wanda Neal exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout her estimable career, she has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of her colleagues and the citizens of Hamblen County; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we extend to Wanda Neal our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.